

In reference to WHPA Online Permitting Subcommittee meeting January 9, 2017

Legislative and Regulatory Policy Issues Working Group

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Goal:

1. Identify Legislative and Regulatory Policy Issues Related to Online Permitting and Document in an Interim Memo posted to the WHPA website by March 31, 2017:
 - a. [AB 802](#) (normalizing metered energy consumption and tracking thereof)
 - b. [SB 350](#) (doubling energy efficiency by 2030)
 - c. [SB 1414](#) (HVAC permit closure; certification and proof of permitted installation)
 - d. **Others?**

Tasks:

2. Outline the key points of each of the above identified legislative measures:
 - a. Assembly Bill 802
 - i. Pilot program for access to multifamily and commercial utilities data
 - ii. Whole building energy usage access available to building owners
 - iii. Benchmarking program – first statewide. Coming spring of 2018:
 1. ENERGY STAR Portfolio Manager benchmarking data
 - iv. Collects consumer-level data to make forecast models
 - b. Senate Bill 350
 - i. Clean Energy and Pollution Reduction Act
 - ii. Doubling energy savings by 2030
 - iii. High-quality retrofits and consumer protection guidelines
 - iv. Increasing efficiency savings in disadvantaged communities
 - v. Product and energy saving tracking
 - c. Senate Bill 1414
 - i. Developing a plan for AC and heat pump code compliance
 - ii. Emphasis on permits – applying and reducing paperwork
 - iii. Systems to verify proper installations
3. Describe the benefits and drawbacks of the above identified legislation and policy affecting the implementation of an online permitting system (OPS) for HVAC mechanical changeouts:
 - a. Assembly Bill 802
 - i. Positives:
 1. Energy usage data will be reported, gathered and streamlined in ENERGY STAR Portfolio Manager by utilities.
 2. Energy usage levels can help determine where changeouts have (or have not) occurred.
 - ii. Negatives:
 1. Energy usage does not directly correlate with HVAC permits issued (aka, does not address compliance issues).
 2. Does not specify that the public will have access to the ENERGY STAR Portfolio to export or view the data.
 - b. Senate Bill 350
 - i. Positives:
 1. Provides programs and techniques, such as building benchmarking, energy rating, cost-effective improvements, green workforce training, etc. to assist contractors with compliance.
 2. Documents energy retailers and product quantity through 2030.

ii. Negatives:

1. No indication of public access to tracking methods and results, unless published by the commission...?
2. No designation specifically for HVAC permits—all energy renewables will be tracked.

c. Senate Bill 1414

i. Positives:

1. Specific to central AC and heat pumps.
2. Increases compliance by providing an incentive for energy savings only when the customer or contractor can provide proof of permit closure.

ii. Negatives:

1. Includes “data collection,” but does not explain methodology, access, etc.
2. Does not take streamlining into account. Permit issuance accessibility and level of difficulty varies by jurisdiction.

d. Others?

4. General findings and conclusions: TBD